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May 18, 2004

To:

News Media

From: Councilman Rod Tam, Chairman

Public Works & Economic Development Committee

And

Public Works & Economic Development Committee Members

Re:

City Council Investigation Into The Improper awarding Of The Mililani Pilot Recycling Program Contract To Island Recycling Inc.

"City government must abide to legal procurement procedures and requirements and non-favoritism in awarding public contractual services to private companies."

The City & County of Honolulu's Public Works & Economic Development Committee of the City Council is formally announcing its decision to investigate into the questionable improper awarding of the Mililani pilot recycling program contract to Island Recycling Inc. The investigation is due to the Honolulu Advertiser and Honolulu Star-Bulletin's investigation of the relationship between City & County of Honolulu's Mayor Jeremy Harris administration and Island Recycling Inc. and Mr. Carol Cox, investigative environmentalist of Enviro Watch, Inc. and public requests for the city council committee to investigate improperness.

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Mr. Cox protested the bidding process by the City's Department of Environmental Services based on eight (8) reasons.

- 1. No zoning clearance.
- 2. No Conditional Use Permit.
- 3. No Special Management Area Permit.
- 4. No National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit.
- 5. A State of Hawaii Solid Waste Management Permit (SWAP) authorizing the use on only one parcel.
- 6. A notice of violation for 11 illegal structures.
- 7. A Notice of Order for civil fines.
- 8. An illegal toilet facility with a holding tank.

Also, Island Recycling Inc. owes back rent and electricity costs to the State of Hawaii's Department of Transportation. State procurement laws does not allow public contractual relations with private companies in default of taxes, fines, and lack of bill payments.

Per Frank Doyle, director of the Department of Environmental Services statement in May 2, 2004 Stat-Bulletin article, "Island Recycling cannot be awarded the bid unless it clears up violations of state Health Department rules and city building and zoning regulations".

For further information, please call Councilman Rod Tam at 547-7006 (office) or 216-5454 (cellular).